## Other Benefits

The benefits of using the ADB will increase as crosswalks continue to be developed with other EPA data systems. By using the same lists of impairments as STORET, the process of analyzing the monitoring data in STORET to provide the content for designated use attainment conclusions is made easier. Integration with the WQS database will assist in the processing of validating data information against state standards. The ADB will become the vehicle to document new 303(d) listings. In the future, EPA's TMDL Tracking Database will be crosswalked with the ADB to simplify the process of documenting TMDL approval and making information on the pollution sources identified in established TMDLs available for inclusion in the ADB.

**Personalized Hands-on Training**

## User Support and Training

EPA provides user support for states interested in porting their legacy data into the new ADB. On-site and on-line training opportunities will be available for users interested in operating the new ADB. Since GIS mapping is an important complement to the ADB, training in mapping tools based on the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) can easily be combined with database support services.

**Briefings and Training for Targeted Groups**

## More Information & Training

**Contact information:**

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ADB Web site:
http://www.epa.gov/waters/adb

Toll Free Tech Support Helpline:
1-800-844-0638
Tech Support e-mail: owsupport@rti.org

Office of Water AWPD Monitoring Branch
EPA-841-F-02-001

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency


## Overview

The new Assessment Database (ADB) application provides a consistent framework for managing water quality assessment data. The ADB is designed to serve the needs of states, tribes, and other water quality reporting agencies, as well as EPA, for a range of water quality programs, including the status of comprehensive water quality assessment efforts, and the results of Section 303(d) listing decisions. Waters on 303(d) lists then provide the frameworks needed to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and help establish needed pollution source controls. This integrated approach consolidates surface water assessments under Sections 305(b) and 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, which significantly reduces the reporting burden on states.

## Why Use It?

The ADB was designed by water quality professionals to be easy to use, scalable, secure, robust, maintainable, and GIS compatible. It provides a cost-effective data system that:

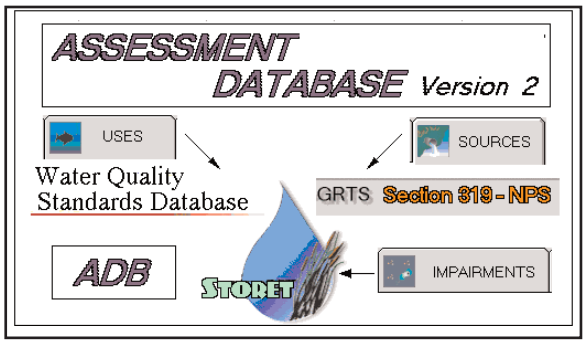
- Supports well documented, defensible water quality assessments
- Tracks temporal changes in water quality attainment status and relates them to management actions such as TMDLs

- Links existing water information systems like STORET and Water Quality Standards
- Generates reports to satisfy the most critical water quality manager or concerned citizen.

## The Data

The ADB stores assessment results related to water quality standards designated use attainment (i.e. is a water supporting fish consumption based on monitoring data), the pollution associated with use impairments, and documentation of probable pollution sources. The ADB provides clearcut documentation for assessment conclusions and facilitates linkages to other important EPA information systems. Some examples of links to other data systems include:

- ADB designated use terms match the information in EPA's Water Quality Standards Database (WQSDB)
- The selection of water quality impairment terms and characteristics match the terms used in EPA's STORET database
- Terms to describe sources of pollution in ADB match the source categories in EPA's Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grants Reporting and Tracking System (GRTS).



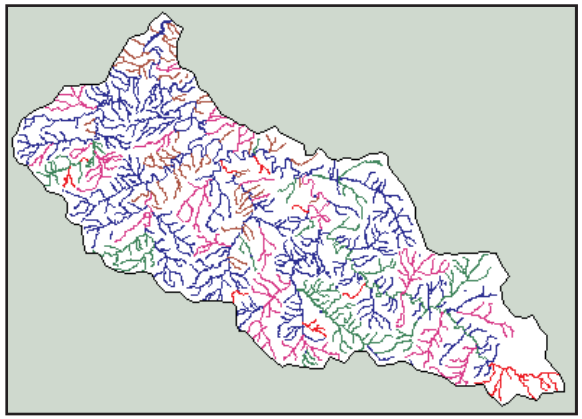

ADB version 2 assessment database

The core elements of ADB are described in EPA's Guidance for 2004 Assessment, Listing and Reporting Requirements Pursuant to Sections 303(d) and 305(b) of the Clean Water Act. This guidance is available on the Internet at:
http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/tmdl0103/2004rpt-guidance.pdf.

The ADB is designed to store assessments over multiple reporting cycles. This provides the foundation for tracking water quality improvements through time, and allows the ADB to document both the listing of new TMDL problems and the de-listing of waters where management actions have led to use attainment.

## The Output

The ADB can be used to generate several preformatted reports, as well as conventional data tables and lists. The ADB also connects easily with other desktop applications like ArcView or Web-based mapping tools like the EnviroMapper for Water to facilitate GIS presentatons of water quality assessment information.



**Map of Designated Use Support**

CATEGORY1

| ID305B | CYCLE | WATER_NAME | STATE | USE_DESC | ATTAINMENT_DE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TN05130203026_1200 | 2000 | Hill Creek | TN | Livestock Watering and | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203026_1300 | 2000 | Hollis Creek | TN | Fish and Aquatic Life | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203026_1300 | 2000 | Hollis Creek | TN | Irrigation | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203026_1300 | 2000 | Hollis Creek | TN | Livestock Watering and | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203026_2000 | 2000 | East Fork Stones River | TN | Domestic Water Supply | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203026_2000 | 2000 | East Fork Stones River | TN | Fish and Aquatic Life | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203026_2000 | 2000 | East Fork Stones River | TN | Industrial Water Supply | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203026_2000 | 2000 | East Fork Stones River | TN | Irrigation | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203026_2000 | 2000 | East Fork Stones River | TN | Livestock Watering and | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0100 | 2000 | Carson Fork | TN | Fish and Aquatic Life | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0100 | 2000 | Carson Fork | TN | Irrigation | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0100 | 2000 | Carson Fork | TN | Livestock Watering and | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0100 | 2000 | Carson Fork | TN | Recreation | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0110 | 2000 | Haws Spring Fork | TN | Fish and Aquatic Life | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0110 | 2000 | Haws Spring Fork | TN | Irrigation | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0110 | 2000 | Haws Spring Fork | TN | Livestock Watering and | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0110 | 2000 | Haws Spring Fork | TN | Recreation | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0200 | 2000 | Shelton Branch | TN | Fish and Aquatic Life | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0200 | 2000 | Shelton Branch | TN | Irrigation | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_0200 | 2000 | Shelton Branch | TN | Livestock Watering and | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_1000 | 2000 | Brawleys Fork | TN | Fish and Aquatic Life | Fully Supporting |
| TN05130203027_1000 | 2000 | Brawleys Fork | TN | Irrigation | Fully Supporting |

Records 1 - 3930

**Output Data Table**

## The Software

ADB is built on an Oracle database. Using a standard database framework makes it easy for states to share their data with EPA and for individual state ADB versions to be combined into a national system. The Oracle foundation means that a wealth of database administration tools are available to ensure data integrity, accommodate sophisticated security features, and facilitate user access to appropriate portions of the database within both desktop and network environments. Visual Basic provides the platform for the ADB's user interface. This ensures an application where the front-end user interface runs on ordinary PCs. The Oracle back-end database can be installed to run on a single-user PC, or the front-end module can be configured to access a network Oracle data server. States using EPA's modernized STORET should find the new ADB particularly easy to install.